

Message Text

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ACTION AID-20

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8640

UNCLAS ROME 10788

AID FOR CONSTANTINO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TPHY, IT, EAID

SUBJ: EROS SATELLITE INFRA-RED PHOTOS OF ITALY

1. EMBASSY HAS LEARNED FROM PROF. CAPUTO, DIRECTOR OF INSTITUTE OF GEOLOGY AND GEOPHYSICS, HE ATTEMPTING PURCHASE FROM EROS DATA CENTER, SUFFOLK, SOUTH DAKOTA, INFRA-RED COLLAGE PHOTOS OF ITALY TAKEN BY VARIOUS SATELLITES. HE SAYS HE MEETING CONSIDERABLE DELAYS AND RED TAPE, PARTICULARLY INVOLVING TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO EROS CENTER.

2. WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF YOU COULD LOOK INTO THIS WITH A VIEW TO RESOLVING ANY PROCEDURAL PROBLEMS THAT MAY BE DELAYING TRANSACTION.

3. HAVE FORWARDED AERIAL PHOTOS TAKEN AFTER FRIULI EARTH-QUAKE TO FDA. CAPUTO SAYS HE HAS ACCESS THESE PHOTOS BUT NEEDS HIGH ALTITUDE ONES (10,000 METERS). UK HAS OFFERED MAKE THEM BUT NOTHING TANGIBLE HAS DEVELOPED THUS FAR. CAPUTO WOULD WELCOME US COOPERATION IN INTERPRETATION THESE PHOTOS ONCE THEY AVAILABLE. YOU MIGHT SUGGEST TO FDA THEY HAVE AN EXPERT LOOK AT LOW ALTITUDE PHOTOS WHEN THEY ARRIVE TO SEE IF THEY ARE OF ANY VALUE FOR GEOLOGICAL SURVEY PURPOSES.VOLPE

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